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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
7 AT TACOMA

8 JAMES EDWARD JONES,

9 Plaintiff,

10 v.

11 SPECIAL COMMITMENT CENTER, et
al.,

12 Defendants.
13

CASE NO. C14-5018 BHS

ORDER ADOPTING REPORT
AND RECOMMENDATION

14 This matter comes before the Court on the Report and Recommendation (“R&R”)
15 of the Honorable J. Richard Creatura, United States Magistrate Judge (Dkt. 37), and
16 Plaintiff James Jones’s (“Jones”) objections to the R&R (Dkt. 38).

17 **I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

18 On January 9, 2014, Jones filed a 42 U.S.C. § 1983 suit against Defendants
19 Special Commitment Center (“SCC”), Mark Strong, Todd Dubble, and Al Nerio
20 (collectively “Defendants”). Dkt. 5. Jones alleges that Defendants violated his
21 constitutional rights by failing to provide clean water, hot water for showers, and clean
22 air at the SCC. *Id.*

1 On August 22, 2014, Defendants moved for summary judgment. Dkt. 25. On
2 November 10, 2014, Judge Creatura issued the R&R recommending that the Court grant
3 Defendants' motion because Jones failed to prove that the conditions at the SCC
4 constitute health hazards. Dkt. 37. On November 28, 2014, Jones filed objections. Dkt.
5 38. On December 18, 2014, Defendants replied. Dkt. 39.

6 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72(b) governs objections to a magistrate judge's
7 recommended disposition. Rule 72(b) provides as follows:

8 The district judge must determine de novo any part of the magistrate
9 judge's disposition that has been properly objected to. The district judge
10 may accept, reject, or modify the recommended disposition; receive further
11 evidence; or return the matter to the magistrate judge with instructions.


12 Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b)(3).

13 Jones argues that he submitted sufficient evidence to establish that the water and
14 air conditions constitute serious health hazards. Dkt. 38. The Court, however, agrees
15 with Judge Creatura's analysis and conclusion. Although Jones presented evidence that
16 the water is brown, the showers are tepid, and the air is dank, Jones failed to produce any
17 evidence that these unpleasant conditions constitute health hazards. Conclusory,
18 nonspecific statements in affidavits are insufficient, and missing facts will not be
19 presumed. *Lujan v. Nat'l Wildlife Fed'n*, 497 U.S. 871, 888–89 (1990). Defendants also
20 submitted evidence that the water and air conditions at the SCC are not health hazards.
21 The Court therefore concludes that summary judgment in favor of Defendants is
22 appropriate.

1 The Court having considered the R&R, Jones's objections, and the remaining
2 record, does hereby find and order as follows:

- 3 (1) The R&R is **ADOPTED**;
- 4 (2) Defendants' motion for summary judgment is **GRANTED**; and
- 5 (2) This action is **DISMISSED**.

6 Dated this 7th day of January, 2015.

7 
8 BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
9 United States District Judge

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